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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: BAYER, et al.

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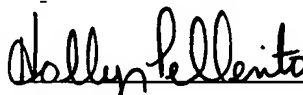
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the application as follows prior to examination on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-16 and add the attached new claims 17-32.